

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 06991 071240Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSC-01 EB-08
TRSE-00 OMB-01 CU-04 DIWY-01 /066 W
-----023939 071243Z /50

O 071158Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3934

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 6991

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PINT IR
SUBJ: HOVEYDA RESIGNATION, AMOUZEGAR NEW PRIMIN

REF: TEHRAN 6806

1. RUMORED RESIGNATION OF HOVEYDA (REFTEL) TOOK PLACE AUGUST 6. HOVEYDA ANNOUNCED HE WAS RESIGNING TO ACCEPT A NEW APPOINTMENT FROM THE SHAH AND BY NOON AUGUST 7 IT WAS ANNOUNCED HE WOULD REPLACE AILING ASSADOLLAH ALAM AS COURT MINISTER.

2. SOMEWHAT CONTRARY TO RUMOR MILL, MINISTER OF STATE AND RASTAKHIZ PARTY CHIEF JAMSHID AMOUZEGAR HAS BEEN APPOINTED NEW PRIMIN. HE THUS BECOMES IRAN'S FIRST PRIMIN EDUCATED IN US (CORNELL AND WASHINGTON UNIVERSITIESL. THE SHAH WOULD APPEAR TO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED AT LEAST THREE PURPOSES WITH THIS SWITCH. FIRST, HE HAS FOUND A REPLACEMENT FOR ALAM. SECOND, HE HAS REACTED TO VOCAL CRITICISM ON ELECTRICITY SHORTAGES AND OTHER INTERNAL POPULAR COMPLAINTS THIS SUMMER. THIRD, BY CHOOSING THE HEAD OF RASTAKHIZ PARTY, SHAH HAS REINFORCED HIS OWN PUBLIC UTTERNACES AND THOSE OF SEVERAL MINISTERS, EMPHASIZING KEY ROLE OF PARTY IN IRANIAN DEVELOPMENT.

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3. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW CABINET INDICATES MANY MINISTERS REMAIN AS HOLDOVERS, INCLUDING ANSARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE, KHALATBARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AZIMI FOR WAR, GANJI FOR EDUCATION AND AFKHAMI MINISTER OF STATE FOR WOMEN'S AFFAIRS. THERE ARE SEVERAL TECHNICIANS AMONG NEW APPOINTEES AND THESE INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO AMOUZEGAR ASSISTANTS FROM RASTAKHIZ PARTY AND ELSEWHERE:

HOMAYOUN WHO TAKES OVER INFORMATION AND TOURISM AND MANUCHEHR
AGAH, MINISTER OF STATE.

4. RETENTION OF STRONG-WILLED MINISTERS SUCH AS
ANSARY WOULD SUGGEST POSSIBILITY OF SOME EARLY STORMS
IN THE CABINET SINCE, ON PAST FORM, AMOUZEGAR IS NOT
NOTED AS A CONCILIATOR LIKE HOVEYDA. HIS STYLE TENDS
MORE TOWARD DOMINATION OF CABINET COLLEAGUES. THIS
WOULD BE PARTICULARLY TRUE IF, AS EXPECTED, AMOUZEGAR
TAKES PARTICULAR INTEREST IN FINANCIAL-ECONOMIC REFORMS
SUCH AS A RENEWED DRIVE AGAINST CORRUPTION, REVISION OF
THE TAX STRUCTURE, AND DEVELOPMENT OF CAPITAL MARKETS
WITH GREATER GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION.

5. WE SHALL BE COMMENTING IN GREATER DETAIL WHEN ENTIRE
NEW CABINET IS ANNOUNCED.

SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IR, (HOVEYDA, AMIR ABBAS), (AMOUZEGAR, JAMSHID)
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